

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

**Please amend paragraph 3 and 4 in page 6 as follows:**

The Faraday rotator 220 is disposed between the semiconductor laser 210 and the polarizer 230. It rotates the first beam 201 outputted from the laser 210 by  $45^\circ$  to become a first rotated beam 201a. The first rotated beam 201a is linearly polarized in the direction coinciding with the polarization axis of the polarizer 230. The Faraday rotator 220 then outputs the first rotated beam 201a to the polarizer 230.

The rotator 220 rotates a second beam 202 inputted from the polarizer 230 by  $45^\circ$  to become a second rotated beam ~~202a~~202b. The second rotated beam ~~202a~~202b has a TM polarization mode which is linearly polarized perpendicular to the first beam 201. The rotator 220 then outputs the second rotated beam ~~202a~~202b to the laser 210. Since the second rotated linearly-polarized beam 202a has a TM polarization mode polarized perpendicular to the first beam 201, it exerts no influence on the first beam 201 of TE polarization mode, outputted from the laser 210.